के अनुसार एन टी सी मिलों के साथ-साथ उसकी अधिग्रहीत मिलों को आधुनिकीकरण द्वारा अर्धक्षम बनाया जा सकता है ।

एन टी सी के लिये एक सर्वांगीण सुधार योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है । चूंकि एन टी सी के 8 सहायक निगमों के मामले औद्योगिक तथा वित्तीय पुनर्निर्माण बोर्ड को भेजे गये हैं, इसलिये किसी भी योजना को अंतिम रूप देने के लिये उसको क्रियान्वित करने से पहले बी आई एफ आर की सहमति भी प्राप्त करनी होगी ।

(ग) और (घ) चालू वित्तीय वर्ष के दौरान सरकार ने जनवरी, 1995 तक की अवधि के लिये एन टी सी को मजदूरी, वेतन, बोनस आदि के भुगतान के लिये अभी तक 124 करोड़ रु० की राशि निवेष की है ।

Foreign print media entry

*7. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have now decided to allow foreign print media to operate from India;

(b) if so, the names of foreign print media operators allowed to operate;

(c) what steps Government have taken to safeguard the interests of local media;

(d) whether Government have also drawn any guidelines to safeguard national interests; and

(e) if so, the detailg thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTTNG (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No- Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Hike in Excise Duty

*8. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some laundry soap manufacturers in Delhi had increased the prices of their products from 1st March, 1994 on the levy of excise duty on washing soap.

(b) whether Government are also aware that some of those manufacturers had withdrawn the excise duty hike from their prices;

(c) whether none of these manufacturers were entitled to charge the Central excise;

(d) if so. the details in this regard;

(e) the action taken or proposed to the taken by Government in the matter; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (f) It has been reported that some laundry soap manufacturers had increased their prices after 1-3-94 and some of them had, later, reduced their prices. It has also been reported that the increase in the prices were inter alia, related to increase in the cost of raw material and other inputs.

There is no legal mechanism to ensure that reduction in excise duty is fully reflected in the prices where there is no price control. If, however, a manufacturer collects any amount as representing the duty of Excise, he is obliged to deposit the same with the exchequer.

Loans to Agro-based Industries

*9. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleaed to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out or propose to chalk out any program-